

### **REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests further examination and reconsideration in view of the amendments above and the remarks set forth below. Claims 1-5, 7-15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 27, 29-40, 42, 43, 45, 46, 52, 55, and 58-60 were previously pending in this application. In the Office Action, claims 59-60 are rejected. Also within the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7-15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 27, 29-40, 42, 43, 45, 46, 52, 55, and 58 are allowed. By the above amendments, claim 60 is canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 7-15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 27, 29-40, 42, 43, 45, 46, 52, 55, and 58-59 are currently pending in this application.

#### **Objection to the Title**

Within the Office Action, a new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. By the above amendment, the title is changed to "A Speech Recognition System to Selectively Utilize Different Speech Recognition Techniques over Multiple Speech Recognition Passes."

#### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Within the Office Action, claims 59-60 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,185,535 issued to Hedin et al. (hereafter "Hedin"). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

#### **Claim 59**

In one embodiment of the present invention, an identifying characteristic is input by a speaker prior to any initial speech recognition being performed. For example, the speaker can be prompted to press the number "1" (one) on the keypad of his/her telephone if calling from a hands-free telephone. Alternately, the speaker can be prompted to respond verbally to an inquiry regarding his/her telephone channel type. The identifying characteristic is related to any spoken

input subsequently provided by the speaker. For example, the characteristic of the spoken input can be the gender of a speaker of the spoken input or a type of telephone channel the speaker is calling from. The identifying characteristic is used to select one speech recognition technique from a plurality of speech recognition techniques. The selected one speech recognition technique is then used to perform a first pass speech recognition on the spoken input. In this case, the plurality of speech recognition techniques include one specific to female speakers, one specific to male speakers, and one specific to callers via a hands-free telephone.

Hedin teaches a system in which a first speech recognition technique is always used as a first pass on a given spoken input. This first speech recognition technique is performed by a first automatic speech recognition system (ASR) 227. Hedin also teaches that where the first speech recognition technique is ineffective, a second speech recognition technique is used as a second pass on the same given spoken input. This second speech recognition technique is performed by a second ASR 307.

Within the Response to Arguments section of the Office Action, the Examiner states that the first pass speech recognition technique of Hedin, when failed, offers the user to input the word in a different manner, such as repeating the word, spelling the word, or typing the word, which would require a particular means for recognition, either utterance recognition, spelling recognition, or text recognition. However, this is not the same as the claimed limitations of claim 59. In particular, claim 59 is directed to receiving an identifying characteristic from a speaker and then selecting a first speech recognition technique from a plurality of speech recognition techniques according to the identifying characteristic. The claimed limitations are not directed to selecting from a plurality of recognition techniques according to the identifying characteristic. The claimed limitations are specifically directed to selecting from a plurality of **speech** recognition techniques according to the identifying characteristic.

The independent Claim 59 is directed to method of recognizing spoken input received from a source of the spoken input. The method comprises the steps of : receiving an identifying characteristic from a speaker; receiving the spoken input from the speaker; selecting a first

speech recognition technique from a plurality of speech recognition techniques according to the identifying characteristic; performing a first pass according to the first speech recognition technique on the spoken input; and selectively performing a second pass according to a second speech recognition technique on the spoken input. As discussed above, Hedin does not teach selecting from a plurality of speech recognition techniques according to an identifying characteristic. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 59 is allowable over of Hedin.

## Claim 60

By the above amendments, claim 60 is canceled.

Within the Office Action, Claims 1-5, 7-15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 27, 29-40, 42, 43, 45, 46, 52, 55, and 58 are allowed.

For the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims are now in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, he is encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

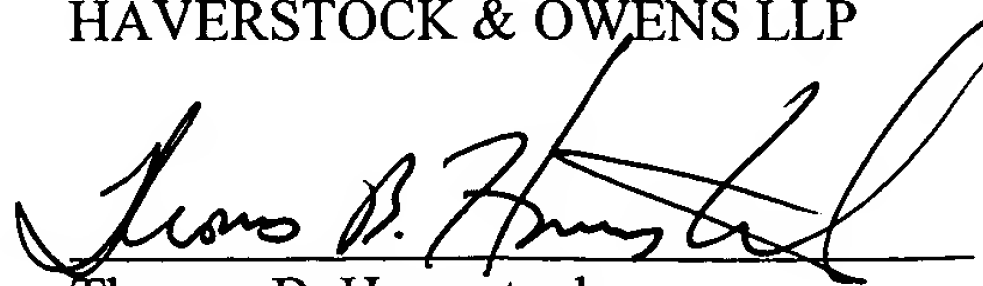
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Direct Deposit Account No. 18-1275 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

Dated: 11-22-05

By:



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## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP.

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